Drafting of Plans on Five Year Basis

4625. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether plans are drafted on five year basis;

(b) if so, the logic behind such five year plans;

(c) whether Government have ever considered to draft two or three years plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the plans are formulated for a period of five years. They are, however, anchored in a 15-year perspective and are operationalised through Annual Plans. The process of plan formulation plan cannot be delinked from the political process in the country. A five-year period for the Plan implies that it can potentially coincide with the tenure of the government. Moreover, it constitutes a reasonable period for initiating, implementing and reaping the benefits of public development initiatives in the form of specific plan programmes, schemes and projects. Shorter time durations would introduce some uncertainty in funding of long gestation projects and would make the process of monitoring and evaluation less effective.

(c) No, Sir. The Annual Plans serve this purpose.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) As explained in (a) and (b).

High Level Committee for Population Control

†4626. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any High Level Committee for Population Control was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister;

(b) the names of the members of the Committee and the number of meetings of the said Committee held so far;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.